

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-19 and add 20-27 as follows:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (New) A method to treat respiratory distress syndrome comprising:
administering a pharmaceutically compatible composition comprised of a dimer of a synthetic peptide from an N-terminal domain of lung surfactant protein B.

21. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the pharmaceutically compatible composition is further comprised of administering an animal-derived lung surfactant.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the animal-derived lung surfactant is a porcine lung lavage extract.

23. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the animal-derived lung surfactant is a calf lung lavage surfactant.

24. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the animal-derived lung surfactant is a bovine lung extract.

25. (New) The method of claims 20, 21, 22, 23, or 24 wherein the pharmaceutically compatible composition is further comprised of one or more phospholipids.

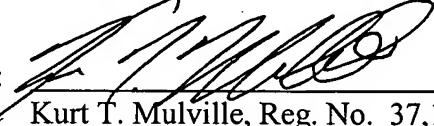
26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the one or more phospholipids includes dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine.

27. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the one or more phospholipids is a phospholipid mixture wherein dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine is the largest component of the phospholipid mixture.

Respectfully submitted,

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